

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
2019 SESSION

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR SAFE DISTANCES FOR HUNTING MIGRATORY WILD  
WATERFOWL IN MAINLAND HYDE COUNTY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Except as provided in Section 2 of this act, it is unlawful to take migratory wild waterfowl within 500 yards of another person's permanently established hunting location.

SECTION 2. This act does not apply to a person taking migratory wild waterfowl:

- (1) On property of which he is the landholder or has the landholder's permission to hunt; or
- (2) Within the riparian water area of property of which he is the landholder or has the landholder's permission to hunt; or
- (3) If he comes within 500 yards of another person's permanently established hunting location only after legally shooting at migratory wild waterfowl and while in active pursuit of a visible, crippled bird.

SECTION 3. The definitions of Subchapter IV of Chapter 113 of the General Statutes apply in interpreting this act. A "permanently established hunting location" is a blind, float, raft, mat or other buoyant craft or any other location, position, or device that is permanently established for hunting migratory wild waterfowl at a specific site by:

- (1) The landholder of the property; or
- (2) The riparian landholder, if the site is on or in water and hunting rights in that water are not controlled by someone other than the riparian landholder; or
- (3) A person who has written permission to establish the permanent site from a landholder who would qualify under subdivisions (1) or (2).

SECTION 4. Any person who violates this act is guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. An offense is punishable by a fine of not less than \$50.00 plus court costs.

SECTION 5. This act applies to the mainland area of Hyde County and does not apply to Ocracoke Island.

SECTION 6. This act is enforceable by law enforcement officers of the Wildlife Resources Commission, by sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, and by other peace officers with general subject matter jurisdiction.

SECTION 7. This act is effective upon ratification.